

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

SCCT-02 M-02 AID-20 CCO-00 FBO-08 NIC-01 OC-06 OPR-02

USSS-00 SCA-01 A-01 OMB-01 SY-04 SCS-03 CAB-09

COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-11 FAA-00 SIL-01 LAB-06 AGR-20

SWF-02 FDRE-00 CIEP-03 DRC-01 /222 W
----- 004526

O 131330Z SEP 74

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2873

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

6CINCEUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LOURENCO MARQUES 0789

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, MZ

SUBJ: SITREP NO. 6

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1. LOURENCO MARQUES INCLUDING AFRICAN SUBURBS APPEARS CALM RETURNING TO NORMAL, LEAVING GREAT DESTRUCTION IN AND ON EDGE OF AFRICAN SUBURBS. MOST COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS REOPENED FOR BUSINESS ON SEPTEMBER 13; STEVEDORES ARE BACK AT WORK, ENSURING OPERATION OF PORT; AND INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS ARE ABOUT TO RESUME. HIGH COMMISSIONER VITOR CRESPO ARRIVED YESTERDAY. ESTIMATED 1,600 REINFORCEMENTS HAVE ARRIVED IN TOWN TO MAINTAIN ORDER.

2. RECENT EVENTS HAVE AGGRAVATED LOURENCO MARQUES' ALREADY DETERIORATING ECONOMIC SITUATION AND NOW CAUSING GREAT HARDSHIP AMONG 400,000 AFRICAN POPULATION. EVEN BEFORE, UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE CITY WAS HIGH AND BASIC FOODSTUFFS IN SHORT SUPPLY. NOW, SITUATION HAS REACHED URBAN DISASTER STAGE, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICAN SUBURBS WHERE TRADITIONAL RETAIL OUTLETS HAVE BEEN DESTROYED AND MOST FOODSTUFFS ARE TOTALLY EXHAUSTED. GOVERNMENT APPEARS AWARE OF POTENTIAL DANGER OF FURTHER DISTURBANCES CAUSED BY FAMISHED POPULATION AND IS TAKING STEPS TO START FLOW OF PRODUCTS TO AFRICAN SUBURBS, INVITING VOLUNTARY SUPPORT OF TRUCK OWNERS. BOTH SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA HAVE DONATED SUPPLIES OF FOOD AND MEDICINE TO MEET EMERGENCY.

3. WE HAVE UNSUBSTANTIATED BUT PLAUSIBLE REPORT THAT RACIAL DISORDERS HAVE SPREAD TO TOWNS NORTH OF LOURENCO MARQUES (IN LM AND GAZA DISTRICTS) AND THAT LIMPOPO RAILWAY LINE TO RHODESIA CUT.

4. I HAVE JUST BEEN INFORMED BY TWO RELIABLE SOURCES THAT EAST AFRICAN AIRWAYS DC-9 ARRIVED HERE THIS MORNING WITH SOME 100 FRELIMO TROOPS. AIRCRAFT CAME FROM LUSAKA AND STOPPED IN NAMPULA TO PICK UP FRELIMO FORCES. FRELIMO DEFENSE MINISTER CHIPANDE MAY ALSO HAVE BEEN ON BOARD. SEVERAL FRELIMO LEADERS HAVE REPORTEDLY BEEN IN NAMPULA FOR PAST FEW DAYS PREPARING JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION.

5. SEPTTEL FOLLOWS ON URBAN DISASTER SITUATION. WE WILL ALSO SEND IN ANALYSIS OF ATTEMPTED COUP AND IMPLICATIONS FOR FUTURE.

WALKER

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Message Attributes

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